

Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts Office of Communications, 455 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102-3688 California Courts Infoline 800-900-5980, www.courts.ca.gov

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: <u>Keby Boyer</u>, 415-865-7740 March 22, 2013

Groundbreaking: New Yolo County Courthouse

What: A groundbreaking ceremony will celebrate the much-anticipated start of construction to the New Yolo Courthouse for the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, in Woodland.

Who: The ceremony will include remarks by California Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Presiding Judge Steven M. Basha, Former Presiding Judge David Rosenberg, Assistant Presiding Judge Kathleen M. White, and Court Executive Officer, James B. Perry.

When: Friday, April 5, 2013, 12 p.m.

Where: 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA

Why: The event commemorates the beginning of construction of the new Yolo County courthouse, which will include 14 courtrooms in 163,000 square feet. The court's new home features significant improvements in security, with separate hallways for the public, staff, and in-custody defendants, as well as better safety, access, and efficiency for visitors and staff. It also solves the court's current space shortfall, replaces obsolete buildings, and consolidates operations in a single building. The new five-story building will feature a curved façade at ground level, with a four-column portico entrance reminiscent of the old historic courthouse. Designed by the Fentress architectural firm, in association with Sacramento's Dreyfuss & Blackford Architects, the new courthouse will be the most significant civic building constructed in Woodland in nearly a century. Yolo's courthouse is the first new courthouse funded by Senate Bill 1407, through trial court user fees, to go into construction, which will be managed Hensel Phelps Construction.

Completion is scheduled for spring 2015, after which the county, which owns the current courthouse, will use the vacated court space for county agencies. For more information, visit the California Courts website at www.courts.ca.gov/facilities-yolo.htm.

Members of the media wishing to attend the ceremony should contact Rocio Vega at 530-406-6838, for directions, parking information, and other background information.

###

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration

of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.